

# **BLM ARPA KXL Permit Public Meeting**

**April 30, 2018**

Review of the 2018 Treatment Plan for Cultural Resources on BLM Lands within the Keystone XL Pipeline Corridor: sites 24VL0979 and 24VL1919 ARPA Permit (Permit):

- FBIC receives letter from BLM dated March 28, 2018
- BLM letter talks about two sites, one that will be impacted/destroyed by approving Permit to KXL
- Sites are 24VL0979 (historic homestead) and 24VL1919 (Prehistoric Site) containing the 7 features that will be impacted/destroyed
- FBIC and THPO submitted wrote a letter to BLM's Gary P. Smith, Chief, Branch of Social and Cultural Resources.
- FBIC submitted/sent letter to BLM on (insert date here)
  - FBIC is requesting BLM to come to Fort Belknap and meet with the Community Council
  - FBIC and THPO want Traditional Cultural Specialists (TCS) to conduct our own survey on Site 24VL1919
  - FBIC and THPO want to see if viable alternate route(s) are available to save the 7 features.
- FBIC and THPO will be hosting a community meeting at the Fort Belknap Insurance Building Conference Room on Monday, April 30, 2018.

April 17, 2018

Gary P. Smith  
Chief, Branch of Social and Cultural Affairs  
Bureau of Land Management  
5001 Southgate Dr.  
Billings, MT 59101

Mr. Smith

I am submitting written comments on behalf of the Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC) in regard to the 2018 Treatment Plan for Cultural Resources on BLM Lands within the Keystone XL Pipeline Corridor: sites 24VL0979 and 24VL1919 ARPA Permit (Permit).

FBIC's focus will be on Site 24VL1919 in these comments. According to your letter dated March 28, 2018 with accompanying Permit package/information there will be seven stone features "removed" from the path of the proposed pipeline. By removal FBIC assumes they will be permanently destroyed.

FBIC would like to know if EXP Energy Services Inc. (EXP) and SWCA Environmental Services (SWCA) involved/hired tribal representatives from any tribes that have a vested interest in this area. FBIC is requesting that BLM hire FBIC Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) Traditional Cultural Specialists (TCS) to conduct our own Class III survey of the area.

FBIC also wants to have THPO TCS's look at the area to see if an alternate route is available in the immediate area so that the seven features can be saved.

Without FBIC's official involvement in the identification of features in Site 24VL1919 we will vehemently oppose any Permit approval for this pipeline.

FBIC is requesting BLM come to Fort Belknap and meet with the FBIC Council to have a true "Government to Government" consultation on this Project. FBIC also wants BLM to work closely with THPO on all aspects with this Project moving forward. Should mitigation be a last resort for these seven features in Site 24VL1919 FBIC wants THPO to be involved in the mitigation process.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact myself or the Tribal Preservation Officer, Michael Black Wolf. I thank you for your time and attention and look forward to a quick and positive response from your office.

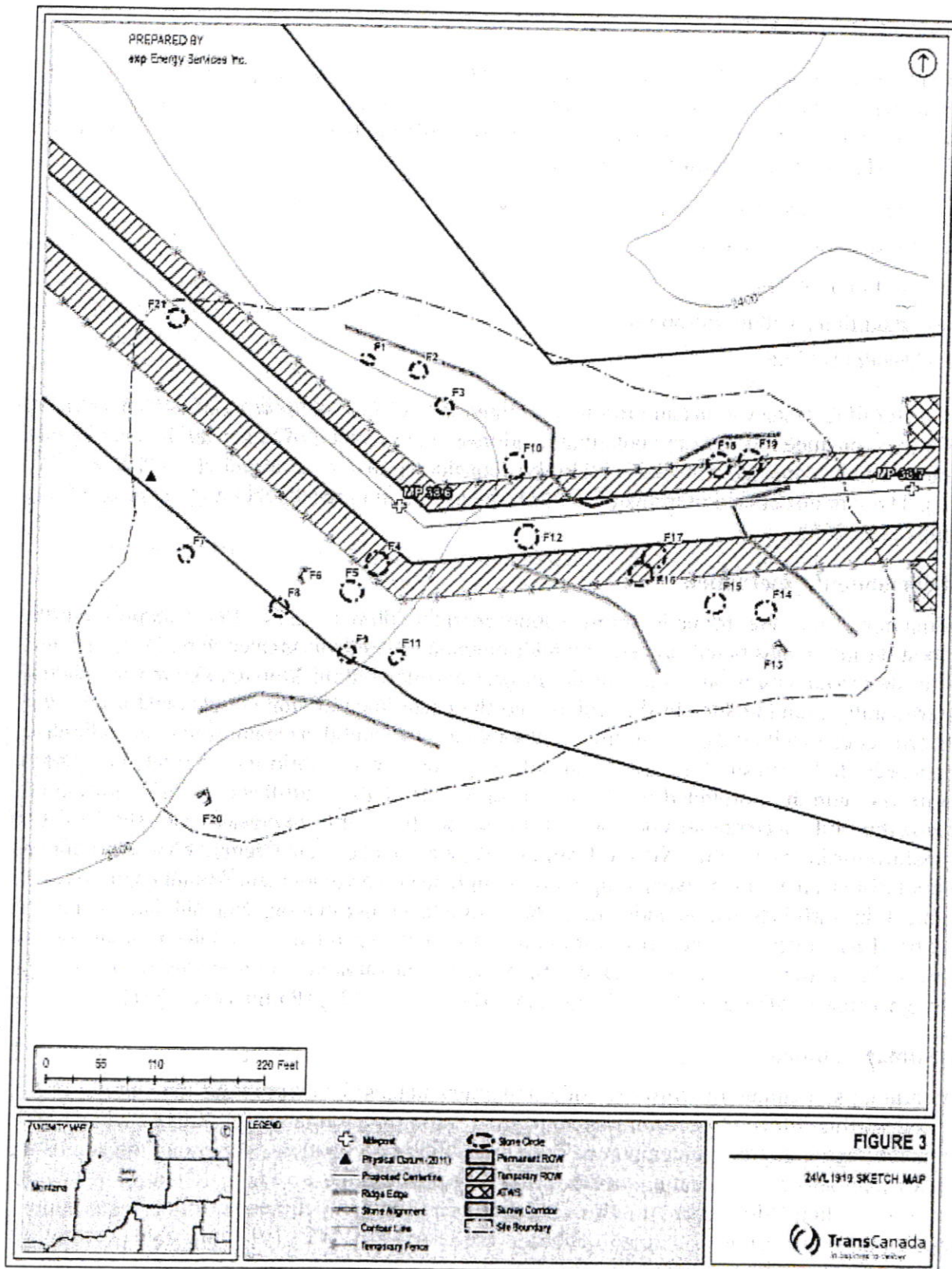


Figure 3. Overview Map of Stone Circle Site 24VL1919 in Relation to the Project Corridor